

Health News Release

For immediate release: October 3, 2011 (11-151)

Contact: Media inquiries: Kate Lynch, Communications Office 360-236-4072

Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service 360-236-4700

State revokes, suspends licenses, certifications, registrations of health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has revoked or suspended the licenses, certifications, or registrations of health care providers in our state. The department has also immediately suspended the credentials of people who have been prohibited from practicing in other states.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency's website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Asotin County

In September 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **Erin M. Bowman** (NC10072799) for five years due to criminal convictions for attempting to obtain a controlled substance through fraud. Her credential expired in March 2011.

Clark County

In September 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission suspended the credential of registered nurse **Warren B. Kertland** (RN00126578) for 24 months due to substance abuse. Her credential expired in May 2011 and she did not respond to written requests for information about positive drug test results in August 2010.

In September 2011 the Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission summarily suspended the credential of chiropractor **Thomas Kessinger** (CH60161096) due to a revocation of his California credential by the California State Board of Chiropractic Examiners.

In September 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Mayra I. Garcia** (NA00195349) for two years for failing to comply with terms and conditions set against her registration. Her credential expired in June 2011.

Disciplinary actions October 3, 2011 Page 2

King County

In September 2011 the Medical Quality Assurance Commission indefinitely suspended the license of physician **Karen Hamilton** (MD00034688) for failing to respond to commission requests for an explanatory statement and copies of medical and billing records for a patient who filed a complaint.

In September 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program revoked the certification of registered nursing assistant **Bart Finkbiner** (NA00153447) for 10 years for sexually abusing a patient.

In September 2011 the Department of Health corrected a final order of physician **Sjardo Steneker** (MD00032063). His credential was suspended in July 2011.

Kitsap County

In September 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Dawna R. Durbin** (NA00166423) for two years. She failed to respond to requests for information by the program. In 2006 and 2007, she failed to properly administer medication to a patient, who was physically harmed as a result. She also diverted multiple doses of Lorazepam, a controlled substance. Her credential expired in January 2009

Mason County

In September 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **Brandon S. Garris** (NC10063700) for four years due criminal convictions for reckless endangerment, possession of stolen property, and voyeurism. His credential expired in August 2009 but was subject to renewal.

Pierce County

In September 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission suspended the credential of licensed practical nurse **Perri E. Fournier** (LP00048319) for failing to comply with a stipulation to informal disposition requiring her to take a refresher course.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Dennis J. King** (NA00192085) for two years for failing to comply with an agreement. He was on probation and required to submit quarterly reports to the program.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Carol L. King** (NA00192557) for two years for failing to comply with an agreement. She was on probation and required to submit quarterly reports to the program.

In September 2011 the X-Ray Technician Program suspended the credential of x-ray technician **Sikham Phouthavong** (XT00005313), also known as Sickham Phouthavoung, for seven years. He was criminally charged with identity theft, obtaining or attempt to obtain a controlled substance by fraud, deceit or misrepresentation, forgery, and leading organized crime.

Disciplinary actions October 3, 2011 Page 3

Spokane County

In September 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of certified nursing assistant **Marlene E. Vitez** (NC60037740) for five years. She took \$65 from a patient's wallet without permission, and failed to respond to Department of Health inquiries about the allegation.

Thurston County

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program suspended the credential of registered nursing assistant **Susan M. Stecher** (NA60177300) for five years due to criminal convictions for theft, trafficking stolen property, and violating a no-contact order.

Yakima County

In September 2011 the Department of Health permanently revoked the credential of physician assistant **Roger E. Heintz** (PA10003976) due to a felony conviction for child molestation.

In August 2011 the Department of Health corrected an order of Gary J. Martinkus (OD00000922). His credential was suspended in July 2011.

Out of State

Massachusetts: In July 2011 the Medical Quality Assurance Commission summarily suspended the credential of physician assistant **Nicole A. Delmonico** (PA10005334) due to her voluntary surrender of her Massachusetts physician assistant license. Her license surrender agreement is based on prescription fraud.

New York: In September 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission summarily suspended the credential of registered nurse **Kristin Marie Ackerbauer** (RN60070361) due to an indefinite suspension of her New York credential to practice as a registered nurse. The New York Nursing Board charged that she withdrew excess patient medications for her own use.

Oregon: In September 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission summarily suspended the credential of registered nurse **Laura F. McCaslin** (RN00175152) due to a suspension of her Oregon credential by the Oregon State Board of Nursing.

Virginia: In August 2011 the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission summarily suspended the credential of registered nurse **Melissa Sheldon** (RN00166968) due to suspension of her Virginia credential by the Virginia State Board of Nursing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.